



AF 12700
\$
#25
T.D.
05/03/02
500.37136X00

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

RECEIVED
MAY 01 2002
Technology Center 2100

Applicants: Y. NAGAI et al.
Serial No.: 09/290,251
Filed: April 13, 1999
For: REPRODUCTION APPARATUS AND REPRODUCTION
METHOD OF DIGITAL VIDEO SIGNAL OR AUDIO
SIGNAL
Art Unit: 2165
Examiner: N. Rosen

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Box AF
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

April 29, 2002

Sir:

The final Office Action dated October 31, 2001, in connection with the above-identified application is acknowledged. A Notice of Appeal was filed on February 28, 2002, and an Appeal Brief and an amendment after final rejection are being submitted herewith.

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.97(d) and 1.98, attached hereto are copies of the following four references:

U.S. Patent No. 5,659,613

PCT Reference WO 96/41468

B. Fox, "Wobble drives pirates off the digital seas", New Scientist, Vol. 153, Issue 2070, February 22, 1997, page 22, published by Reed Business Information, Ltd., London, U.K., ISSN 0262-4079.

International Standard IEC 60958-3,
Digital audio interface — Part 3:

Consumer applications, First edition,
December 1999, International
Electrotechnical Commission, Geneva,
Switzerland (in French and English).

Also attached hereto is a form PTO-1449 listing these four references.

The New Scientist reference is the underlying document corresponding to Fox (the abstract of the article entitled "Wobble drives pirates off the digital seas", New Scientist, February 22, 1997, p. 22) cited by the Examiner in the Office Action of June 12, 2000, and relied on by the Examiner in the rejection of claims 12-13 and 34-35 under 35 USC 103(a) set forth in the final Office Action of October 31, 2001.

PCT reference WO 96/41468 is cited in the New Scientist reference.

U.S. Patent No. 5,659,513 issued from application Serial No. 08/473,047 which is the foreign priority application of PCT reference WO 96/41468.

The International Standard IEC 60958-3 reference is a bilingual publication in both French and English, with the French version appearing on the even-numbered pages 2, 4, 6, . . . 88 and the English version appearing on the odd-numbered pages 3, 5, 7, . . . 89. For the Examiner's convenience, the attached copy of IEC 60985-3 has the odd-numbered pages 3, 5, 7, . . . 89 on which the English version appears grouped together at the beginning of the reference, followed by the even-numbered pages 2, 4, 6, . . . 88 on which the French version appears.

Also listed on the form PTO-1449 is the following reference which is cited on page 1 of the specification:

Nikkei Electronics, No. 683, February 24, 1997, pp. 99-123.

A copy of the Nikkei Electronics reference was submitted on April 13, 1999, when the application was filed, together with a sheet entitled "Information under 37 CFR 1.56(a)" listing this reference. A copy of this sheet signed by the Examiner to indicate that this reference has been considered was attached to the Office Action of November 26, 1999. However, this reference has now been listed on the attached form PTO-1449 to ensure that it will be listed in the "References Cited" section of any patent issuing from the present application.

The Nikkei Electronics reference is not in the English language.

The concise explanation of the relevance of the Nikkei Electronics reference required by 37 CFR 1.98(a)(3)(i) is provided by the discussion of this reference in the specification as permitted by the last sentence of 37 CFR 1.98(a)(3)(i).

The four references newly cited in this Information Disclosure Statement (U.S. Patent No. 5,659,613, PCT reference WO 96/41468, the New Scientist reference, and the International Standard IEC 60958-3 reference) were discovered and obtained by the applicants' representatives at the law firm indicated below in April 2002 during preparation of the accompanying Appeal Brief.

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.97(d), this Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted after the mailing date of the final Office Action of October 31, 2001.

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.97(d)(1) and 1.97(e)(2), on information and belief, I hereby state that no item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement (i.e. U.S. Patent No. 5,659,613, PCT reference WO 96/41468, the New Scientist reference, and the International Standard IEC 60958-3 reference) was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the undersigned person after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.97(d)(2), submitted herewith is a credit card payment form in payment of the fee of \$180.00 set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p).


It is respectfully requested that this Information Disclosure Statement be considered.

Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, or credit any overpayment of fees,

to the deposit account of Antonelli, Terry, Stout & Kraus,
LLP, Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (500.37136X00).

Respectfully submitted,

ANTONELLI, TERRY, STOUT & KRAUS, LLP


Melvin Kraus
Registration No. 22,466

MK/RSS
(703) 312-6600

Attachments